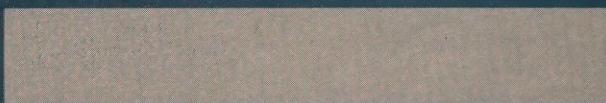
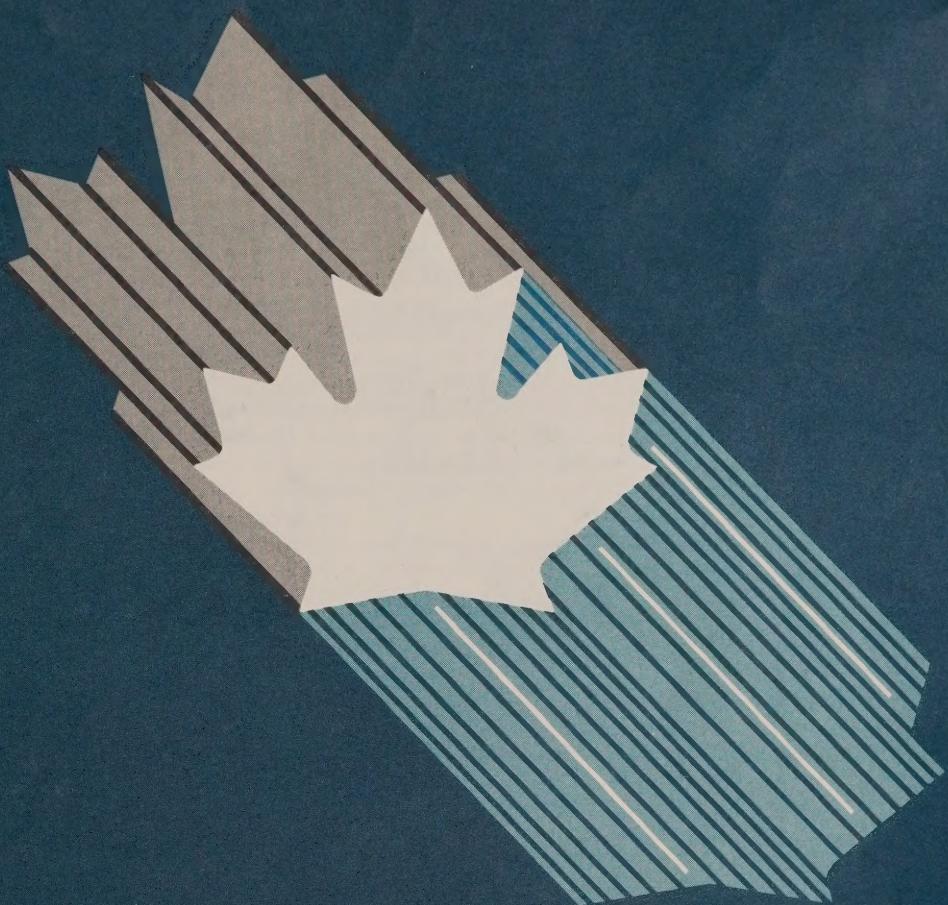


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I N D U S T R Y  
P R O F I L E



Industry, Science and  
Technology Canada

Industrie, Sciences et  
Technologie Canada

**Paints and Coating**

Canadä

# Regional Offices

## Newfoundland

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90 O'Leary Avenue  
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## Nova Scotia

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## Quebec

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Suite 3800  
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H4Z 1E8  
Tel: (514) 283-8185

## Ontario

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1 Front Street West  
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M5J 1A4  
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## Yukon

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Tel: (403) 668-4655

## Northwest Territories

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Communications Branch  
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235 Queen Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0H5*

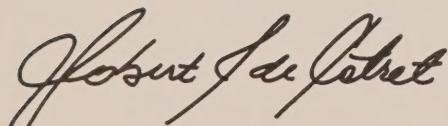
1988

**FOREWORD**

• • • • •

In a rapidly changing global trade environment, the international competitiveness of Canadian industry is the key to survival and growth. This Industry Profile is one of a series of papers which assess, in a summary form, the current competitiveness of Canada's industrial sectors, taking into account technological and other key factors, and changes anticipated under the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement. Industry participants were consulted in the preparation of the papers.

The series is being published as steps are being taken to create the new Department of Industry, Science and Technology from the consolidation of the Department of Regional Industrial Expansion and the Ministry of State for Science and Technology. It is my intention that the series will be updated on a regular basis and continue to be a product of the new department. I sincerely hope that these profiles will be informative to those interested in Canadian industrial development and serve as a basis for discussion of industrial trends, prospects and strategic directions.



Minister

Canada

**1. Structure and Performance****Structure**

The paints and coatings industry consists of manufacturers of various paints, varnishes, lacquers, shellacs and oil stains. It includes two distinct sub-sectors, trade coatings and industrial coatings, which account for about 48 percent and 52 percent of the value of shipments respectively. The trade coatings sub-sector depends heavily on the performance of the construction industry, whereas industrial coatings are linked closely to the automotive, white goods and industrial equipment industries.

*Trade coatings* (also known as architectural coatings) include interior and exterior house coatings, which are sold through wholesale-retail outlets and purchased by the general public, painters and building contractors.

*Industrial coatings* include paints used by manufacturers of automobiles, appliances, machinery, furniture and packaging, as well as various coatings used for industrial maintenance, road marking, and automotive and machinery refinishing.

Manufacturers of paints and coatings are basically formulators of the numerous raw materials used to meet varied conditions and performance requirements. These materials include binders, which cause paint films to adhere; pigments, to impart colours; solvents, for viscosity levels; plasticizers, to regulate flexibility; driers; biocides; emulsifiers; defoamers; freeze-thaw agents; and others.

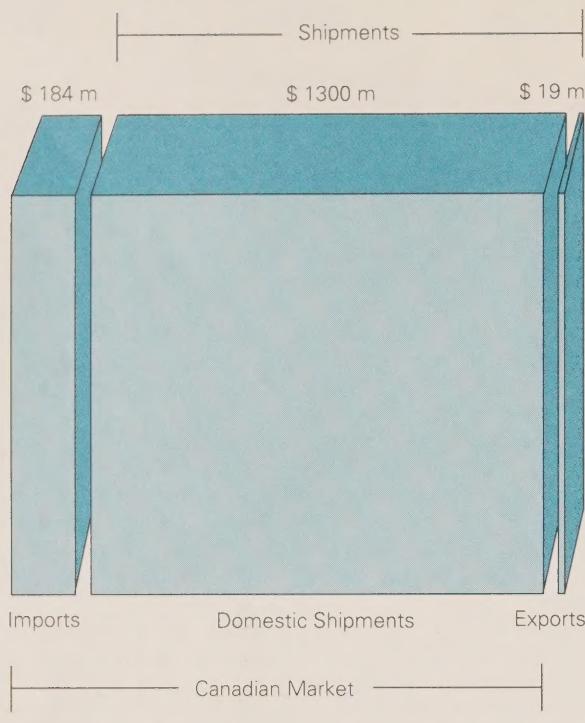
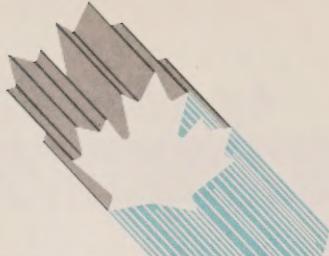
In 1986, the industry consisted of about 150 establishments employing approximately 6800 people, and shipping goods valued at \$1319 million. Nearly 80 percent of the establishments employ fewer than 50 persons and account for 20 percent of the shipments. Some 60 percent of shipments originate from 19 establishments with 100 or more employees.

Domestic shipments accounted for 88 percent of the apparent \$1484-million domestic market in 1986. The industry is oriented predominantly to the domestic market — 1986 exports totalled only \$19 million, representing 1.5 percent of shipments. In the same year, imports were valued at \$184 million and accounted for 12 percent of the domestic market.

A large proportion of the industry is foreign controlled. Of the 12 largest manufacturers, two are Canadian owned, three are British, another is German and the remaining six are subsidiaries of U.S. firms. It is estimated that these 12 firms account for more than 50 percent of industry shipments. About 40 percent of shipments are produced by Canadian-owned establishments.

Most of the industry is concentrated in Ontario and Quebec, where 85 percent of shipments originate. Most of the large manufacturers of industrial coatings are located in southern Ontario, while some of the large trade-paint producers have plants in a number of provinces. Regional manufacturers of trade paints serve local markets across the country in competition with national firms.

Industry, Science and  
Technology CanadaIndustrie, Sciences et  
Technologie Canada



*Imports, Exports and Domestic Shipments  
1986*

There is little vertical integration in the industry. Most manufacturers purchase their supplies from chemicals companies which may either manufacture or import them. The degree of material content imported varies with the type of coatings, and up to 50 percent of the value of materials used in some special coatings may be imported. Overall, an estimated 25 percent of materials used by the industry is imported.

Some large manufacturers produce such raw materials as alkyd resins and acrylic and polyvinyl acetate resin emulsions for their own use, and some firms may import other raw materials from parent companies. In general, materials are freely available in quantities sufficient to satisfy the industry's requirements.

Paints and coatings are marketed through several channels. More than 40 percent of trade coatings are sold by large chains such as Canadian Tire, The Bay, Sears, Beaver Lumber and others, largely under private-brand labels. Sales by small hardware and decorator centres account for about 45 percent with the balance marketed through company-owned stores. Industrial coatings are sold mostly on a direct basis to original equipment manufacturers. The balance is marketed through distributors.

### Performance

The paints and coatings industry has served a relatively mature market for several years. During the 1973-86 period, the annual real growth of its gross domestic product dropped by -1.7 percent, as compared to a 2.3-percent growth for all manufacturing industries. A slow growth in trade coatings is attributable to the broad acceptance of low-maintenance, pre-decorated products such as aluminum and vinyl siding, wallpaper and panels, and the reduction in housing starts. Industrial coatings have suffered as a result of the slower automobile sales in the early 1980s, car downsizing, the continuing penetration of plastic parts that require no painting in the appliance and electronics industry, and the decrease in sales of farm machinery and implements.

The performance of the industry has improved in the post-recession 1983-87 period, mainly because of an upsurge in the house construction market. However, its 1987 gross domestic product was still below pre-recession levels.

Employment fell from a high of 8495 in 1973 to a low of 6291 in 1984. During this period, the number of production employees dropped by only 3.8 percent, but the number of non-production workers was pared by 41.3 percent in an effort to increase productivity. The large reduction in the non-production work force is the result of rationalization within the industry, the introduction of computerized office procedures and the marketing of an increased proportion of paints through large chains — a move that reduced the size of manufacturers' field sales forces. However, as a result of the improved post-recession performance, industry employment has risen to about 6800.

Prices for raw materials have continued to rise at a time when, generally speaking, the manufacturers have been unable to pass the full increase on to customers because of intense competition, particularly in trade coatings.

According to Statistics Canada, the industry's average net after-tax profit between 1976 and 1984 was 3.8 percent of sales. A survey by the National Paint and Coatings Association in Washington, D.C., shows that after-tax profit for the U.S. industry during the same period was just 2.6 percent of sales.

Productivity improvement in Canada has not kept pace with gains in the United States. Between 1974 and 1984, for example, there was no increase in Canadian value-added per production worker. In the United States, however, value added rose by two percent a year.

During the 1973-86 period, imports increased at an average annual rate of 16 percent, to \$184 million in 1986 from \$29 million in 1973. Exports increased to \$19 million in 1986 from \$3 million in 1973.



In 1986, 89 percent of Canada's imports originated in the United States, while 82 percent of exports were shipped to that country. These figures have been more or less constant for the last several years. Most trade activity involves specialty and industrial coatings but very little international commerce in trade (architectural) coatings takes place. There was a sizable increase in imports between 1982 and 1985 which can be attributed largely to two factors — the closing of a large multinational company's Canadian industrial-coatings operation in 1982 with the company now shipping certain types of coatings from the United States; and the rise in imports by a large automobile manufacturer as a result of increased domestic auto production.

The problems faced by the Canadian industry — increasing raw material costs, fierce price competition for trade coatings, poor profitability and low growth — are similar to those of the coatings industry in other industrialized nations.

## 2. Strengths and Weaknesses

### Structural Factors

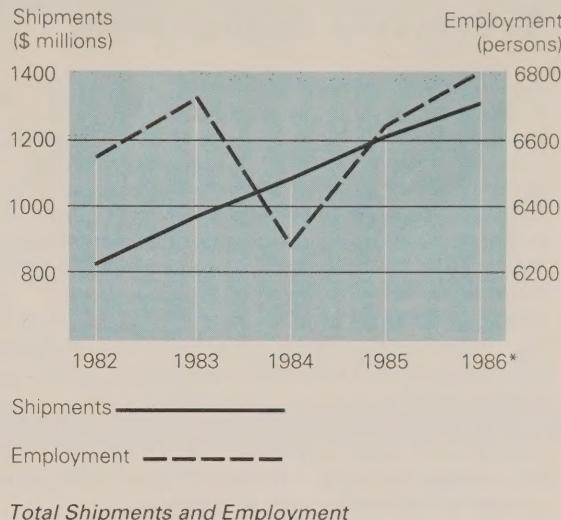
Important factors affecting the competitiveness of the paints and coatings industry are the scale of the plants, raw material prices, the branch-plant orientation and transportation costs. Canadian manufacturers generally operate on a much smaller scale than their U.S. counterparts. Canadian batches rarely exceed 13 640 litres (3000 gallons), whereas in the United States, batches of 45 460 litres (10 000 gallons) are common. The result is lower productivity in Canada.

A number of raw materials are imported, some dutiable. This, together with smaller-quantity purchases, means that raw materials cost an estimated five percent more in Canada than in the United States.

A large portion of the industry is controlled by multinational firms. The decision of these firms to establish plants in Canada was influenced by the relatively high Canadian customs tariffs on imports of paints and coatings. In general, Canadian subsidiary plants are intended to serve the domestic market and have limited freedom to trade internationally.

Transportation is another important element of cost, especially in trade coatings, for which freight can represent as much as 10 percent of the selling price. Transportation costs are not as significant for industrial coatings which are usually more profitable. In addition, industrial coatings sold to original equipment manufacturers are often shipped in bulk at a substantial reduction in freight costs.

While impeding imports of trade coatings, transportation costs have made it difficult for single-plant firms with a policy of national coverage to sell profitably in competition with regional manufacturers which serve local markets.



Total Shipments and Employment

\* Estimate

### Trade-related Factors

Canada's duty on coatings is 9.2 percent ad valorem. Duty in the United States, Canada's only important trading partner in coatings, ranges from zero to 10 percent, depending on the chemical composition of the product. The rate in the European Community (E.C.) is 10 percent, while in Japan it ranges from 4.6 to six percent. There are no significant non-tariff barriers (NTBs). Under the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (FTA), both American and Canadian tariffs are scheduled to be eliminated over a period of five years.

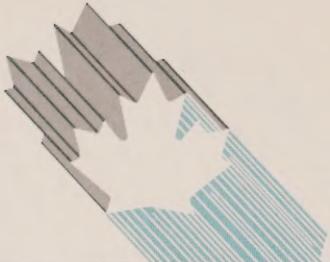
### Technological Factors

In general, Canadian companies have access to modern technology, either through parent firms or materials and machinery suppliers. Environmental and health considerations have been motivating factors in some new developments, in particular the reduction or replacement of volatile solvents by higher solid or water-borne coatings.

Research and development (R&D) activities are limited in Canada. Most Canadian-owned firms do not have the resources to conduct extensive R&D work. For foreign-owned establishments, most R&D is carried out at the parents' headquarters facilities.

### Other Factors

The industry, in both Canada and the United States, is preoccupied with federal and provincial (or state) regulations concerning health, safety, the environment, transportation and labelling. Through the Canadian Paint and Coatings Association, the Canadian industry works closely with government departments to ensure that its products and processes conform to legislative requirements.



### 3. Evolving Environment

The paints and coatings industry is currently enjoying a resurgence in growth as a result of a healthy construction industry. Over the long term, however, it is not expected to keep pace with the performance of overall manufacturing because of the increasing popularity of alternative systems, the longer-term softening of the housing and automobile markets and the downsizing of automobiles. Thus, the industry will have considerable difficulty in attaining efficient scales of operation, competitive raw material costs and increased R&D activity unless it consolidates and rationalizes production, as it is beginning to do.

As almost all durable goods are coated, new coating technologies typically push out older coating technologies with little increase of overall demand — a situation that is expected to continue.

The elimination of the Canadian tariff under the FTA may reduce the profitability of producers in Canada. Both manufacturing costs and selling prices are likely to fall, but the decrease is expected to be greater because of strong competition from major U.S. suppliers. Higher manufacturing costs, the need to provide continuing service, the high degree and nature of foreign ownership and the relatively high transportation costs, all make it unrealistic to expect increased exports to offset the loss of profitability arising from the FTA. To some degree, the latter three factors could also have a limiting factor on imports.

Because this industry is dominated by subsidiaries of multinationals, the impact of the FTA will largely depend on how these large firms decide to serve the North American market. As for the smaller Canadian-owned firms, they should see their raw materials costs move to parity with those in the United States. However, the gap in other costs, such as manufacturing, marketing and distribution, is expected to narrow more slowly. As a result, the industry will likely go through a difficult period of adjustment.

### 4. Competitiveness Assessment

The present level of tariff protection and the current rate of exchange (approximately US\$0.80) are major factors which have allowed the Canadian paints and coatings industry to retain a sizable share of the domestic market. In general, however, the industry is not competitive internationally. Contributing factors include lower productivity, higher material costs and substantial foreign control of the industry which, taken together, tend to limit the development in Canada of proprietary or special coatings for the domestic and export markets.

Overall, the impact of the FTA is expected to be marginally negative in reducing profitability, with an anticipated reduction in raw material costs being offset by increased price competition from larger U.S. suppliers.

For further information concerning the subject matter contained in this profile, contact:

Resource Processing Industries Branch  
Industry, Science and Technology Canada  
Attention: Paints and Coatings  
235 Queen Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0H5

(613) 954-3012



## PRINCIPAL STATISTICS

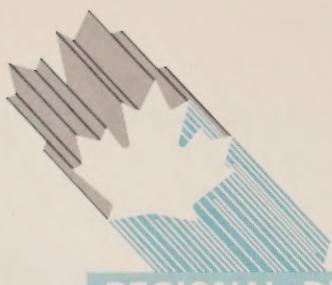
SIC(s) COVERED: 375 (1980)

	1973	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Establishments	149	147	143	148	151	145	150 <sup>e</sup>
Employment	8 495	7 170	6 562	6 725	6 291	6 630	6 800 <sup>e</sup>
Shipments (\$ millions)	322	880	819	975	1 081	1 206	1 319 <sup>e</sup>
Gross domestic product (constant 1981 \$ millions)	349	285	200	265	310	328	337
Investment (\$ millions)	9	23	14	15	17	23	43
Profits after tax (\$ millions) (% of income)	12 3.3	52 4.0	33 2.7	62 4.5	108 7.3	97 6.4	N/A N/A

## TRADE STATISTICS

	1973	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Exports (\$ millions)	3	12	13	15	19	19	19
Domestic shipments (\$ millions)	319	868	806	960	1 062	1 187	1 300
Imports (\$ millions)	29	98	85	111	149	173	184
Canadian market (\$ millions)	348	966	891	1 071	1 211	1 360	1 484
Exports as % of shipments	0.9	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.8	1.6	1.4
Imports as % of domestic market	8.3	9.9	9.5	10.4	12.3	12.7	12.4
Source of imports (% of total value)				U.S.	E.C.	Others	
	1981	89.5	8.9	1.6			
	1982	91.7	7.1	1.2			
	1983	92.9	6.4	0.7			
	1984	93.3	5.8	0.9			
	1985	92.8	6.5	0.7			
	1986	89.1	9.6	1.3			
Destination of exports (% of total value)				U.S.	E.C.	Others	
	1981	80.0	4.8	15.2			
	1982	72.7	1.7	25.6			
	1983	82.6	2.2	15.2			
	1984	84.7	2.3	13.0			
	1985	83.2	3.8	13.0			
	1986	82.1	5.8	12.1			

(continued)



## REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION — Average over the last 3 years

	Atlantic	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	B.C.
Establishments – % of total	3	27	52	6	12
Employment – % of total	2	29	53	5	11
Shipments – % of total	2	27	57	4	10

## MAJOR FIRMS

Name	Ownership	Location of Major Plants
BAPCO	American/British	Concord, Ontario
BASF Inmont Corporation	West German	Brampton, Ontario
C-I-L Inc.	British	Toronto, Ontario
Color Your World Inc.	American	Toronto, Ontario
Desoto Coatings Limited	American	Mississauga, Ontario
Du Pont Canada Inc.	American	Ajax, Ontario
Glidden Company Canada Limited	British	Toronto, Ontario
International Paints Canada	British	Baie d'Urfé, Quebec
Benjamin Moore & Co. Limited	American	Toronto, Ontario
PPG Canada Inc.	American	Toronto, Ontario
Selectone Paints Limited	Canadian	Weston, Ontario
Sico Inc.	Canadian	Longueuil, Quebec

e Estimate

N/A Not available

Note: Statistics Canada data and information obtained through industry consultations and other sources have been used in the preparation of this profile.

## RÉPARTITION RÉGIONALE — Moyenne des 3 dernières années

Etablissements (en %)	Alberta	Québec	Ontario	Prairies	C.-B.	Expéditions (en %)
Établissements (en %)	3	27	52	6	12	11
Emplois (en %)	2	29	53	5	12	4
BASF Immobil Corporation	ouest-allemande	britannique	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	57
C-LI Inc.	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	27
Color Your World Inc.	américaine	américaine	américaine	américaine	américaine	2
Desoto Coatings Limited	américaine	américaine	américaine	américaine	américaine	10
Du Port Canada Inc.	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	11
Gildden Company Canada Limited	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	4
Peniture Internationale Canada Ltée	britannique	britannique	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	57
Benjamin Moore & Co. Limited	américaine	américaine	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	27
PPG Canada Inc.	américaine	américaine	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	12
Weston (Ontario) Ltd.	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	11
Selecitone Paints Limited	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	4
Sico Inc.	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	10

## PRINCIPALES SOCIÉTÉS

Nom	Emplacement	Propriété	Canada	Longueuil (Québec)
BAPCO	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne
BASF Immobil Corporation	ouest-allemande	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne
C-LI Inc.	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne
Color Your World Inc.	américaine	américaine	canadienne	canadienne
Desoto Coatings Limited	américaine	américaine	canadienne	canadienne
Du Port Canada Inc.	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne
Gildden Company Canada Limited	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne
Peniture Internationale Canada Ltée	britannique	britannique	canadienne	canadienne
Benjamin Moore & Co. Limited	américaine	américaine	canadienne	canadienne
PPG Canada Inc.	américaine	américaine	canadienne	canadienne
Weston (Ontario) Ltd.	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne
Selecitone Paints Limited	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne
Sico Inc.	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne	canadienne



## PRINCIPALES STATISTIQUES

CTI 375 (1980)

	1973	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Etablissements	149	147	143	148	151	145	150e
Emplois	8 495	7 170	6 562	6 725	6 291	1 206	6 800e
Expéditions*	322	880	819	975	1 081	1 319e	
Produit intérieur brut**	349	285	200	265	310	328	337
Investissements*	9	23	14	15	17	23	43
Bénéfices après impôts*	12	52	33	2,7	4,5	108	97
(en % des revenus)	3,3	4,0	4,0	2,7	4,5	7,3	6,4
n.d.							
1973	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	

## STATISTIQUES COMMERCIALES

	1973	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Exportations*	3	12	13	15	19	19	19
Expéditions internes*	319	868	806	960	1 062	1 187	1 300
Marché intérieur*	348	966	891	1 071	1 211	1 360	1 484
Importations*	29	98	85	111	149	173	184
Expéditions (en % des expéditions)	0,9	1,4	1,6	1,5	1,8	1,6	1,4
Importations (en % du marché intérieur)	8,3	9,9	9,5	10,4	12,3	12,7	12,4
Source des importations							
Autres							
Destination des exportations							
Autres							
(en %)							

Transformations des richesses naturelles  
Industrie, Sciences et Technologies Canada  
Objectif : Permettre et renforcer le développement

Pour de plus amples renseignements sur ce dossier, s'adresser à :

Les droits de douane actuels et le taux de change, environ 80 \$ US, sont 2 grands facteurs qui ont permis à cette industrie canadienne de conserver une part appréciable du marché intérieur. Cependant, cette industrie n'est pas compétitive sur le plan international. Cette situation est due à une productivité plus faible, à des coûts plus élevés pour une grande partie de ce secteur. Ensemble, ces éléments rendent à certains secteurs la mise au point au Canada de revêtements spéciaux destinés aux marchés intérieur et extérieur.

Dans l'ensemble, l'accord devrait réduire légèrement la rentabilité de ce secteur, la diminution des coûts des matières premières étant annulée par une plus grande compétitivité des prix proposés par les grands fournisseurs américains.

#### 4. Evaluation de la compétitivité

L'élimination des droits de douane en vertu de l'Accord de libre-échange pourra réduire la rentabilité des fabricants canadiens. Les coûts de production et les prix de vente devraient diminuer, mais les seconds plus que les premiers étaisent donné la vive concurrence livrée par les grands fournisseurs américains. En raison des coûts de production plus élevés, de la nécessité d'offrir un service après-vente et de la mainmise étrangère sur une grande partie de cette industrie et des frais relativement élevés du transport, il est peu probable qu'une hausse des exportations compense la diminution de la rentabilité des filiales de multinationales, les répercussions de l'accord dépendront de la façon dont les grandes entreprises décideront de servir le marché nord-américain. Les petites entreprises canadiennes devraient voir les coûts de leurs matières premières baisser pour s'alligner sur ceux des entreprises américaines. Pour les autres coûts — production, commerce et distribution — l'effet entre les deux pays devrait diminuer plus lentement. L'industrie canadienne connaîtra donc probablement une période d'adaptation difficile.

continuer pas à rationaliser ses activités. Comme presque tous les biens durables sont déjà revêtus lorsqu'ils sont vendus, les nouveaux éléments remplaçent les anciens sans pour autant faire augmenter la demande globale. Cette situation devrait persister.

L'industrie de la pétrolière et du revêtement connaît une reprise grâce à la vigueur de l'industrie de la construction. À long terme, cependant, elle devrait pas croître au même rythme que l'ensemble du secteur. En effet donne la population grandissante des produits de remplacement, le résultat d'un développement prévu dans les secteurs de la construction et de l'automobile, ainsi que la diminution des dimensions des voitures. Cet état de fait entraînera donc un niveau de production rentable, à parvenir à un niveau de production difficile à se procurer des matières premières à des prix compétitifs à augmenter la R-D, si elle ne

**3. Evolution de l'environnement**

au Canada comme aux Etats-Unis, l'industrie de la pétrochimie et du revêtement doit se conformer aux réglementations du gouvernement fédéral et, selon le cas, des provinces ou des États. L'Association canadienne de l'industrie de la pétrochimie et des plastiques a dévoilé récemment une charte de la sécurité qui vise à assurer que les produits ministères intéressés sont conformes à la réglementation.

## **3. Evolution de l'environnement**

et procédes sont conformes à la réglementation.

d'environnement, de transport et d'énergie, au Canada comme aux Etats-Unis, l'industrie de la pétrolier et du revêtement sont doté de confortaux réglementations du gouvernement fédéral, selon le cas, des provinces ou des Etats. L'Association canadienne de l'industrie de la pétrolier et du g

Autres facteurs

Au Canada, il se fait peu de H-U dans ce domaine. La plupart des entreprises de propriété canadienne n'ont pas les ressources nécessaires pour procéder à de grands travaux; quant aux entreprises de propriété étrangère, c'est leur société mère qui exécute la majorité partie des activités de R-D.

de macromolécules. Les préoccupations en matière de révolutions, en particulier la mise au point de nouvelles innovations, ont dégénéré dans une sorte d'obsession des éléments contenant moins de solvants volatils et plus de matériaux solides, et la mise au point de revêtements à l'eau.

**Facteurs technologiques**

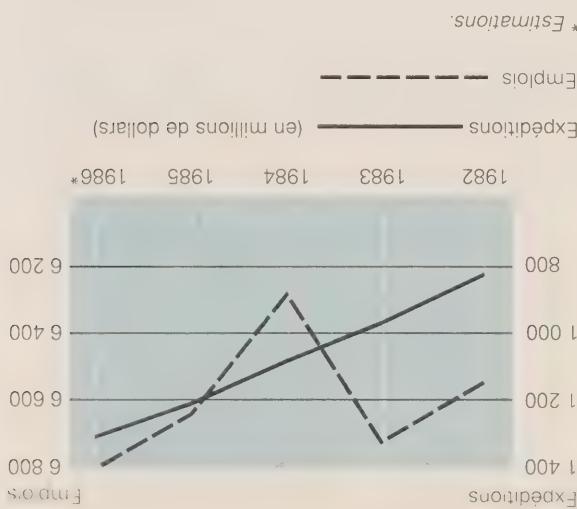
En général, les entreprises canadiennes ont accès à une technologie récente, soit l'internetmédiaire soit de leur société mère, soit des fournisseurs de matières premières ou des constructeurs de machines et de équipements de précision.

Le Canada impose aux revendeurs des marchandises douanières ad valorem de 9,2 p. 100. Les Etats-Unis, son seul grand partenaire commercial dans ce secteur, appliquent des tarifs variant de 0 à 10 p. 100 selon la composition chimique du produit. Dans la CEE, les tarifs s'élèvent à 10 p. 100, tandis qu'au Japon, ils oscillent entre 4,6 et 6 p. 100. En vertu de l'accord de libre-échange entre le Canada et les Etats-Unis, les tarifs seraient éliminés sur 5 ans.

## **Facteurs liés au commerce**

de ces sociétés servent le marché intérieur et ne sont guère autorisées à exporter. Les frais de transport sont un autre facteur à considérer, surtout dans le sous-secteur des revêtements commerciaux, où ils peuvent représenter jusqu'à 10 p. 100 du prix de vente. Ces frais jouent un rôle moins important dans les sous-secteurs des revêtements industriels, produits rentables et souvent expédiés en vrac, ce qui réduit les frais de transport.

En raison des frais de transport, qui entraînent par allleurs l'importation de revêtements commerciaux, les entreprises exploitant une seule usine et servant ensemble du marché intérieur ont de la difficulté à concurrencer les fabricants régionaux qui répondent à la demande locale.



En effet, les entreprises canadiennes sont soumises à des droits de douane, certaines taxes et autres prélevements importants. De plus, elles achètent en petites quantités, les entreprises canadiennes paient de plus cher que leurs concurrentes américaines.

Parmi les principales facteurs influant sur la compétitivité de cette industrie, options lenvégrefuge des usines, le cours des matières premières, l'obligation de suivre les plans de la société mère et les frais de transport. En général, les fabricants canadiens exploitent des installations beaucoup plus petites que celles de leurs concurrents américains. Ils produisent rarement des lots de plus de 13 000 litres, alors qu'aux États-Unis, les lots de 45 000 litres sont chose courante. Les lots de 13 000 litres sont choisis pour minimiser les coûts de production et sont moins élevés au Canada.

## Facteurs structurels

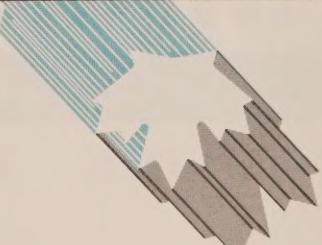
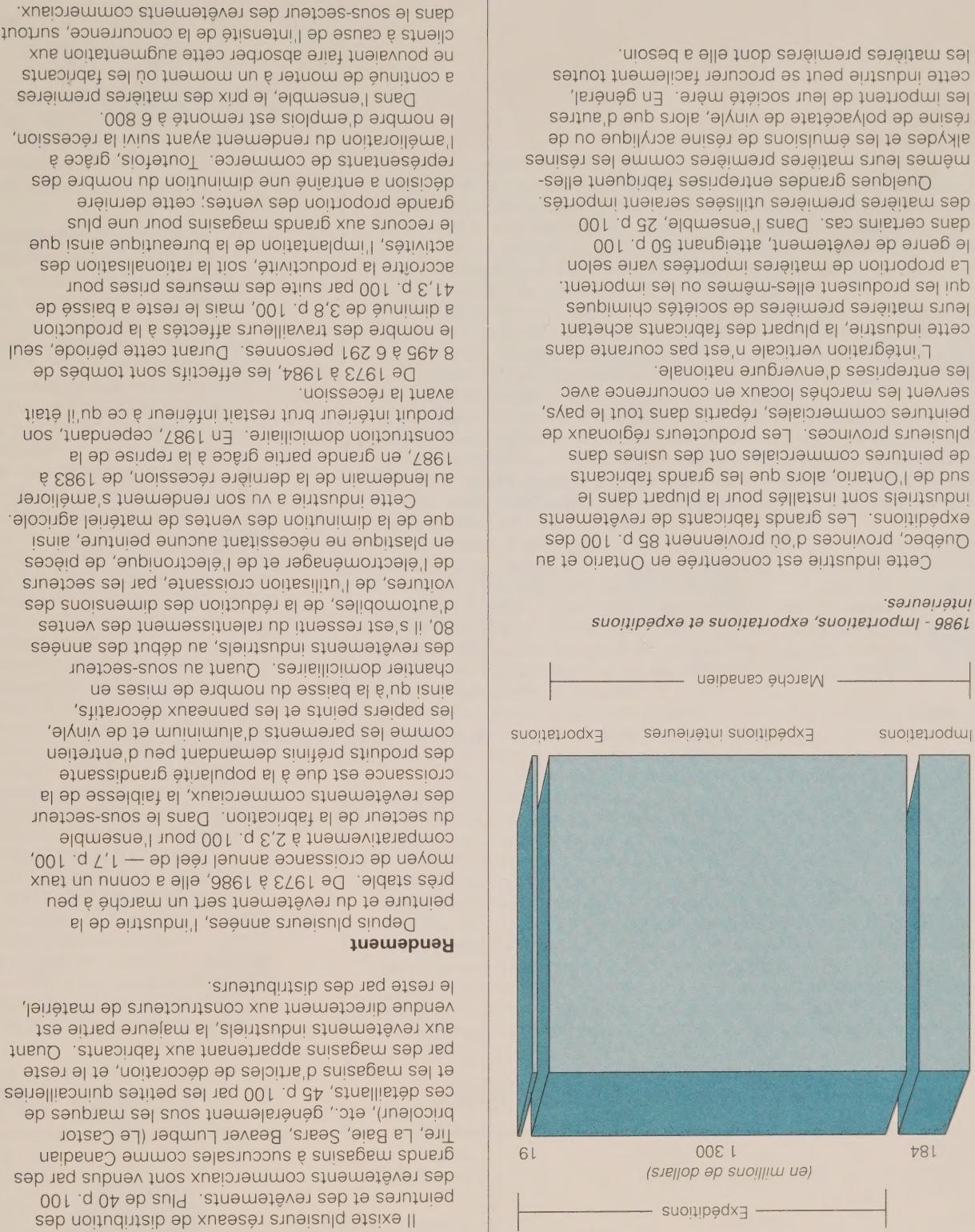
## 2. Forces et faiblesses

Au Canada comme dans les autres pays industrielles, cette industrie fait face aux mêmes problèmes, soit la montée des prix des matières premières, le concurrence acharnée qui existe dans le secteur des revêtements commerciaux, la perte de rentabilité et la faillite de la croissance.

Au Canada, la productivité a pas augmenté au même rythme qu'aux États-Unis. De 1974 à 1984, par exemple, la valeur ajoutée par ouvrier n'a pas changé au Canada, tandis qu'aux États-Unis, elle a augmenté de 2 p. 100 par an. De 1973 à 1986, les importations sont passées de 29 à 184 millions de dollars, soit un taux de croissance annuel de 16 p. 100. En 1986, des exportations atteignaient 19 millions de dollars, contre 3 millions seulement en 1973.

D'après Statistique Canada, de 1976 à 1984, cette industrie canadienne a enregistré des bénéfices moyens nets après impôts correspondant à 3,8 p. 100 de ses ventes. Par comparaison, selon une enquête menée par la National Paint and Coating Association, établie à Washington, l'industrie américaine n'afficheait à ce chapitre qu'un taux de 2,6 p. 100.

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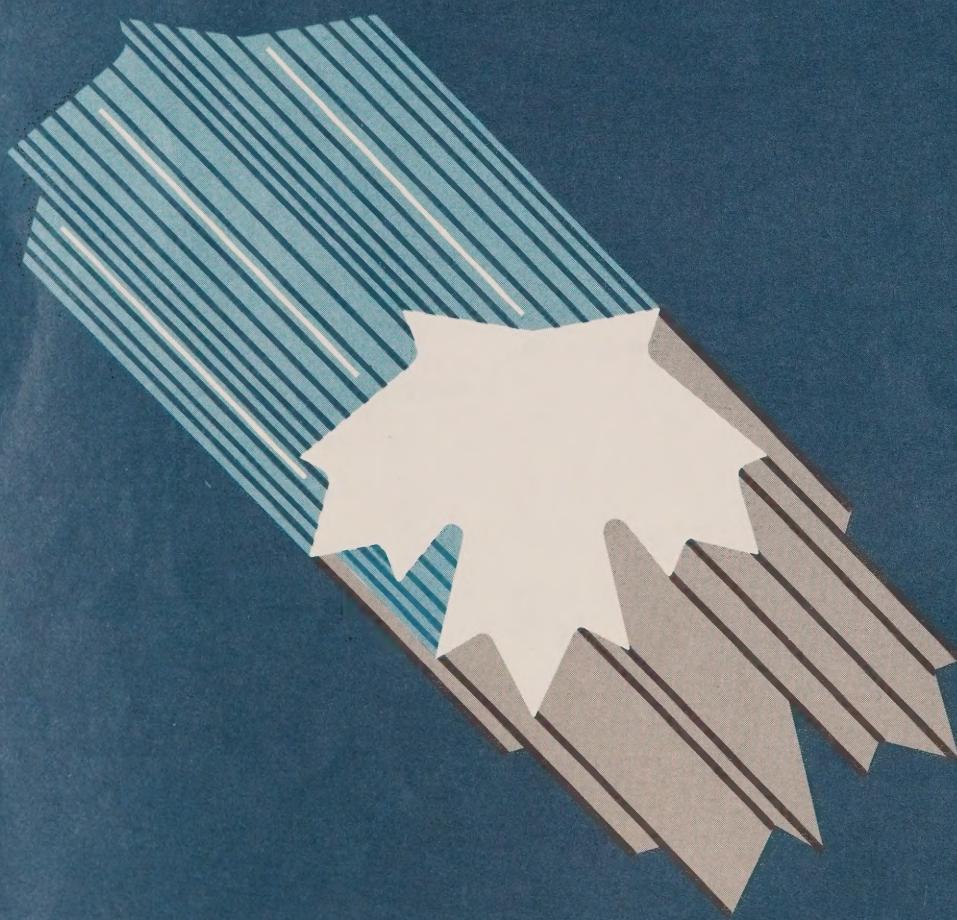
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